

'DRYS' TO ASK SPECIAL RULE ON BILL TODAY

District Committee Votes to Extend Hearings for Two Days.

"WETS" SUBTLE FUGUE SEEN

Congressman Barkley Declares Prohibition Opponents Seek to Prevent House Vote.

The House District Committee voted today to extend hearings on the prohibition bill for two days and Congressman Barkley, co-author of the measure to make the National Capital "dry," immediately announced his intention to appeal to the Rules Committee for a special rule taking the prohibition bill away from the District Committee.

Congressman Barkley said he would introduce this afternoon a resolution calling for the discharge of the District Committee and providing for a House vote on the Sheppard-Barkley bill.

The vote in the District Committee for an extension of the hearings was 13 to 7. The extension motion offered by Congressman Oakley of Connecticut stipulates that the "wet" side shall be heard tomorrow and the "dry" side shall close on Friday.

"Drys" Want A Report.

Both Congressman Barkley and A. E. Shoemaker, attorney for the Anti-Saloon League said this afternoon that the "drys" desired no further time and regarded the continuation of the hearings as a move to delay the prohibition bill.

In appealing to the Rules Committee, Congressman Barkley doubtless will precipitate a bitter fight over committee jurisdiction. This appeal is the last resort of the "drys," according to the viewpoint of the prohibitionists, and upon the decision of the Rules Committee rests the fate of the Sheppard-Barkley bill.

It is generally believed that if the bill is not taken away from the District Committee and hearings are continued for two days, the element of time will prevent the consideration of the bill in the regular course of events at this session.

One Vote May Decide.

Reports are current about the House that the Rules Committee is almost evenly divided. One vote, it is said, may decide whether or not a special rule shall be reported.

Members of the committee are inclined to be "mum" in the present District prohibition "crisis," but the prohibitionists are more confident in claiming control of the Rules Committee than are the "wets."

"There is no need of waiting further on the District Committee," said Congressman Barkley today. "I insist that this prohibition bill shall be voted on by the House at this session, and it appears the only way to get a vote is to ask the Rules Committee for a special rule discharging the District Committee."

"I shall prepare and introduce this afternoon a resolution calling for such a rule. It will provide for three hours of general debate and the offering of amendments, and the House will not believe the House will amend the Senate bill. I am confident of favorable action by the Rules Committee, although I am not at liberty to state upon what I base my confidence."

Vote in Committee.

The vote on the Oakley motion to continue the hearings for two days was as follows:

For a continuation of the hearings—Crosner, Hamill, Lobeck, Burke, Pooling, Bailey, Wilson, Cary, Focht, Darrow, Oakley, Gould, and Tinkham, 13.

Against—Aiken, Lloyd, Vinson, H. Hard, Rogers, Wheeler, and Johnson (chairman), 7.

CHAMBERLAIN BILL HELD UP

Author Admits He Has No Hope for Present Session.

Universal military service legislation will fail of passage at the present session of Congress, Senator Chamberlain, father of the movement, admitted today.

"I now have no hope whatever," Chamberlain said, "of getting action on my bill. However, I shall again ask my committee to add it on the pending military appropriation bill."

As a single objection on the Senate floor, however, would defeat this attempt and as strong opposition exists in the House, Senator Chamberlain considers his effort will be hopeless.

A great drive, however, will be started, he said, early in the next session to put the measure through.

Despite the hopeless blockade of such legislation, the army general staff yesterday announced it would send to Congress its detailed plans for putting the system into operation.

MAJ. THOMAS E. DAVIS DEAD

Chief Editor of Picayune and With Lee at Appomattox.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 21.—Major Thomas E. Davis, for years editor-in-chief of the New Orleans Picayune and regarded as one of the best-known newspaper men of the South, is dead here.

Major Davis was a native of Lynchburg, Va. He attained the rank of major in the Confederate Army, and was with General Lee at the surrender at Appomattox.

Major Davis had not been actively engaged in newspaper work for several years.

FIGHT IN SENATE ON CLERK RAISE

Upper House Disagrees on the Conference Report and Insists on Its Amendment.

WORKS CITES FOOD RIOTS

Declares Congress Is Haggling Over Fund to Pay Workers Living Wages.

Proposed increase of pay for Government employees, the high cost of living, and the bread riots in New York all were linked together in an animated debate which broke out in the Senate today in connection with the conference report on the agricultural bill.

That feature of the conference report which relates to increase of pay for the employees of the Agricultural Department caused the discussion.

After a long debate, and by a vote of 12 to 4, the Senate disagreed on its amendment.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

Senator Borah today declared the Government ought to "take by the throat" those who are controlling food supplies and boosting prices.

WILSON FIRM FOR PROBE OF FOOD PRICES

Will Insist Congress Pass \$400,000 Appropriation for Inquiry.

LEADERS LINE UP FORCES

Legislators Can't Adjourn Without Seeking Remedy for Poor, Says Borah.

President Wilson is determined Congress shall pass immediately the \$400,000 appropriation which the Federal Trade Commission has requested for the nation-wide food price probe he directed the commission and the Department of Agriculture to make.

It was stated officially at the White House today that the President would give his personal attention toward swinging Congress into line behind his food probe suggestion.

As a result, Administration leaders in Congress today began lining up forces to compel Congressional acquiescence.

Congressman Borah, in the House, and Senator Borah, in the Senate, are expected to lead the fight with the charge that there is universal conviction that food prices are subject of widespread manipulation.

Senator Borah today demanded that Congress stay here until adequate steps are taken to bring prices to a normal.

"Congress cannot adjourn," Borah said, "so long as it is possible for us to be of any service in this deplorable situation. We want bread!"

He declared the French revolutionists, as they marched to Versailles, Borah said, "it is the most ominous cry that can be heard in a republic, and what ever is said as to the effect of the war on prices, the fact remains these poor people are in large measure the victims of speculation and combinations which are making millions out of food."

"There is at the bottom of things no justification for this condition. Congress cannot ignore the cries of the hungry. The situation must be met at once."

Sweeping Probe Planned. The Federal Trade Commission has detailed plans completed for a sweeping investigation into the New York and Chicago food markets, as soon as Congress grants the necessary money.

Bread and meat prices—and the possibility of their manipulation—will be the first line of attack.

Under present plans grand jury investigations are to be carried on simultaneously.

New York and Chicago, it was stated, will be the first fields of operation "in view of the serious prevailing conditions."

Chairman Davies of the Federal Trade Commission predicted today that food riots will occur throughout the country unless prompt action is taken by the Government.

"There will be food riots, not only in New York," Davies said, "but throughout the country, unless prompt action is taken soon. I make this as a prediction."

Says U. S. Lags Behind. The United States, Davies said, is behind every big nation in protecting its public from food speculation.

"There is not a civilized nation," Davies said, "but has protected its people from unwarranted inflation of food prices under the ancient guise of 'natural causes.'"

The investigation will be conducted in five divisions: Meats, breadstuffs, dairy products, fresh fruits and vegetables, and canned goods, sugar, coffee, teas, and spices.

The meat probe is planned to delve deeply into the workings of the packing houses and cold storage corporations. This latter, it was stated authoritatively, will be subjected to "particular scrutiny."

The breadstuffs investigation will seek particularly to uncover alleged combinations of bakers interests.

The investigation believes there have been illegal "agreements" to decrease the size and weight of bread loaves.

Any evidence tending to show combination in restraint of trade will be immediately turned over to the Department of Justice for prosecution.

HOG PRICES LEAP. CHICAGO, Feb. 21.—Hogs smashed all previous high prices by nearly a quarter of a dollar today when the market opened at \$12.95 per hundred pounds. Pigs sold at \$11.00 per hundredweight. The prices are the highest since the civil war.

20,636 MORE IRISH IN U. S. NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Irish immigrants who were admitted through this port and then scattered throughout the country numbered 20,636, according to the annual report today of the Irish Emigrant Society.

Of the new comers, 11,258 were men and 9,378 were women, and they brought with them a total of \$1,868,466.

TO ADMIT WOMEN TO BAR. LONDON, Feb. 21.—A measure permitting women to practice as solicitors received its first reading in the House of Lords yesterday. It was introduced by Baron Buckmaster of Chedington.

DALBEATIE CASE SILENCES ADMINISTRATION PACIFISTS; ADMIT SITUATION IS GRAVE

FOUR SHIPS SUNK, BERLIN CLAIMS

BERLIN (Via Sayville Wireless), Feb. 21.—Sinking in the Mediterranean of "a crowded Italian transport steamer," two armed steamers of 3,000 and 4,500 tons, the Italian steamer Oceana, 4,200 tons, the French steamer Moventaux, 3,200 tons, and the French sailing ship Aphrodite, 600 tons, was announced in an official press bureau statement today.

According to the press bureau the two armed steamers were "loaded with an important cargo for Saloniki," and the French sailing ship with iron for Italy.

Lloyd's does not list an Italian steamship named Oceana, but there is a steamship Oceana, of 4,217 tons, owned by L. Pittalugia, of Genoa, which may be the one specified in the Berlin statement.

Neither of the other ships is listed, nor is there any name in Lloyd's register which might be mistaken for them.

DISTRICT RECEIVES \$235,750 BY ERROR

House Committee Accountants Find Discrepancy in Relations With Treasury.

The discovery of another error in the accounts of the United States Government and the District of Columbia was announced today by Chairman Ben Johnson, of the House District Committee whose accountants have, for several years been investigating these fiscal relations.

Mr. Johnson says that the sum of \$235,750.88 has been erroneously paid into the District Treasury from fines collected by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, which amount should have gone into the Federal Treasury.

Mr. Johnson's claim is incidental to the introduction of a resolution today continuing the investigating powers of the District Committee which wishes to proceed with its inquiry interrupted during the vacation of Congress and until next session.

Chairman Johnson said that he had been assured that the general deficiency appropriation bill, soon to be reported, will contain legislation for a refund to the Federal Treasury by the District of the new item of \$235,000.

Errors Amount to \$2,000,000. "Altogether," said Mr. Johnson, "this committee has unearthed errors amounting to more than \$2,000,000 in the District and Federal Government accounts, this amount including previously announced discrepancies involving interest on the 3.55 bonds, the rental of the Washington Market, and the Government Hospital for the Insane account."

The salaries and expenses of the Supreme Court of the District, Mr. Johnson continued, "are paid half by the United States and half by the District. That court tries offenses against both the District and the Federal governments, and has collected fines in both classes of cases, but the fines have been turned over to the District. My contention is the fines from offenses against the United States should go to the Federal Treasury, and the Controller of the Currency shares that view."

The \$235,000 item, Mr. Johnson said, covers the fines erroneously turned into the District Treasury.

BASIN CLOSED TO SKATERS. Tidal basin continues closed to skaters today, the rain of yesterday having covered the surface of the ice.

Weather predictions do not indicate it will be frozen over again until possibly the latter part of the week.

DESTRUCTION CONFIRMED.

The machinery of eight German liners, interned in Honolulu harbor, was wrecked beyond repair by their crews when the United States severed relations, the Department of Commerce was officially informed today.

The damage will amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

GOLD MOVED AT NIGHT. Precautions Taken to Guard Twenty Millions From Canada.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Wall Street had gone to bed last night when twelve heavy express trucks laden with gold, drew up in front of the Assay Office. They deposited there approximately \$20,000,000 sent to J. P. Morgan & Co. from Canada.

The gold is part of the consignments that have been coming in unreported in the last fortnight.

Bringing it in at night, under the glaring arc lights, put up around the Assay Office and Sub-Treasury, reduces the risk of unpleasant happenings that might occur. Since the first of last week \$64,000,000 has arrived from Canada. The total since the first of the year is now \$123,000,000.

TO LIST ALIEN EMPLOYEES. Claiming a large number of aliens are on the payrolls of the United States Government, Congressman Daniel J. Griffith, of New York, announced today that he had written the heads of executive departments requesting a list of all the names of employees who are not American citizens.

This information, Mr. Griffith says, is desired in advance of his action seeking consideration of his bill providing "that all employees of the United States Government and the District of Columbia shall be citizens of the United States."

All the News in The Times. Despite the high cost of print paper, The Times is publishing more news than any other paper in Washington.

The score for the six week-days of last week was: The Times... 365 cols. Next paper... 349 cols.

In local news, The Times also led all other papers. The local items published being as follows: The Times... 720 items. Next paper... 531 items.

CAR MEN TO MAKE DEMAND ON COMPANIES

Agreement Expires March 11 and New One Is to Be Sought.

WAGES TO BE MADE ISSUE

Will Seek Readjustment of Time of Service to Gain Maximum Pay.

A reopening of some of the questions between the street car companies and their employees which were settled for a period of one year by arbitration last March is being planned by the union leaders of the employees.

The principal matter, that of the readjustment of the wage scales, will be considered at a meeting of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees, No. 689, tonight.

The meeting, which will be called to order in Typographical Temple at midnight, is incident to the preparation of the new working agreement which the employees will submit to the traction companies for ratification or rejection on March 11.

The working agreement signed on March 11 last year, which brought the street car strike to an end, expires on the same date this year.

The meeting tonight, which probably will be attended by several hundred motormen and conductors who belong to the union, is a special one called for the specific purpose of discussing the terms to be enumerated by the employees in the new agreement.

Officials Decline To Talk. Officials of the union today emphatically declined to discuss the subjects to be considered at tonight's meeting. They pointed out that courtesy and propriety demanded that whatever terms of agreement decided upon should be submitted to the presidents and other officials of the Washington Railway and Electric and the Capital Traction Companies before being made public.

From individual members of the union, however, motormen and conductors not serving as officers in the organization, it was learned today that the new agreement will propose several changes of considerable importance which will be a readjustment in the wage scale.

At tonight's meeting, the employees will be called upon to vote upon the changes proposed in the new agreement. Many of them admit they are doubtful as to whether or not the companies will agree to the revision of wages, but they add "that is an eventuality which cannot be discussed or even considered at this time."

The root and foundation of the dissatisfaction with the wage scale is what appears to be objection to "serving an apprenticeship of ten years before receiving a journeyman's wages."

The conductors and motormen employed by both companies must now serve ten years or more to reach the top of the wage scale providing for pay at the rate of 27 cents an hour.

The employees are understood to consider the period between the time they enter the service at 23½ cents an hour to the time they receive a maximum increase to 27 cents, or an increase of 3½ cents, is too long.

Think Time Too Long. They take the view that from the first year to the tenth year is virtually an apprenticeship and point out that four years is the average length of time for a workman to serve as an apprentice.

In view of the comparison between what they call the apprentice period in their line of work and the six-year shorter period in other callings, it was inferred by some of the employees today that the new working agreement would contain a provision that wages be increased to the maximum of 27 cents an hour at the end of four, instead of ten, years.

The Capital Traction Company has four wage levels. At the start motormen and conductors employed by this company receive 23½ cents an hour. For the second, third, fourth, and fifth years they receive 24½ cents an hour, while 25½ cents an hour is paid them during the sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth years. After a decade of service the rate is 27 cents an hour.

The Washington Railway and Electric Company has five wage levels. For the first year the rate of pay is 23½ cents an hour; for the second, third, and fourth years, 24½ cents; for the fifth and sixth years, 25½; for the seventh, eighth, and ninth years, 26½ cents, and for ten years or more 27 cents.

Other Questions to Be Raised. While it is expected that readjustment of the wage scale will be the principal change suggested in the new agreement submitted by the men, it is understood others will be recommended or demanded.

Among these will be changes in working conditions and a somewhat different and more satisfactory method of settling grievances between the companies and employees. The present system of submitting the disputes to the Public Utilities Commission is understood not to have worked out to the satisfaction of the men.

VAN DYKE COMING HOME. American Minister to the Netherlands Van Dyke will sail for America Saturday, the State Department was informed today. Mr. Van Dyke resigned some time ago and his departure bears no significance, the department said.

VIENNA NEWS ADDS TO FEARS

Talk of Improved Aspect Comes to Sudden Halt in Official Circles.

WILSON GOING TO CAPITOL

President Now Practically Certain to Ask Authority to Act.

Overnight consideration of the latest reports from the submarine war zone and of the latest news from Vienna silenced today the pacifist elements in the Wilson Administration.

As though the President himself had spoken, there was a noticeable cessation of utterances in certain quarters that "the situation was improving."

The same officials who yesterday and the day before were rejecting the idea that war with Germany was likely, admitted today that the situation was gravely critical. They justified their change of front on the circumstances outlined in official reports concerning the destruction of the Norwegian steamer Dalbeatie.

Going Before Congress. It is now known as definitely as anything concerning the Administration's plans can be known, that the President is going before a joint session of the House and Senate—probably next week.

He is not going there to ask for a declaration of war against Germany. Ostensibly he will go there to obtain sanction for certain steps he has in mind to protect American life and property on the high seas from the operations of the German war zone decrees.

Primarily he will go there in order that he might have a proper setting in which to address to the people of the United States and the people and powers of Germany and her allies, a complete statement of the attitude of the American Government and another warning of the inevitable consequences of the campaign of ruthless warfare against German submarines, in which the central powers have launched.

Might Force Declaration. This course, is the program if, in the meantime, there does not occur an "overt act" of such magnitude as to compel a declaration of war.

The President does not need the authority of Congress to protect American shipping, in the opinion of many eminent lawyers in Congress. While, of course, he would have to be backed by a declaration of war in order to undertake an aggressive campaign against German submarines, it is not believed that he would need Congressional action to arm American merchant ships or even to convey them through the war zone.

At present he has no other purpose in view than to protect American lives and property in the peaceful pursuits of trade.

Determined Purpose. But he has the purpose, determined and fixed, it is believed, to acquaint the people of the United States with the measures of protection he feels called upon to adopt—this purpose, and, perhaps, the hope that a firm announcement of his intentions may yet avert Germany from acts that must inevitably lead to war.

In the naked outlines of the brief dispatch received from Consul Frost at Queenstown concerning the destruction of the Dalbeatie.

(Continued on Second Page.)

GOLD MOVED AT NIGHT

Precautions Taken to Guard Twenty Millions From Canada.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Wall Street had gone to bed last night when twelve heavy express trucks laden with gold, drew up in front of the Assay Office. They deposited there approximately \$20,000,000 sent to J. P. Morgan & Co. from Canada.

The gold is part of the consignments that have been coming in unreported in the last fortnight.

Bringing it in at night, under the glaring arc lights, put up around the Assay Office and Sub-Treasury, reduces the risk of unpleasant happenings that might occur. Since the first of last week \$64,000,000 has arrived from Canada. The total since the first of the year is now \$123,000,000.

TO LIST ALIEN EMPLOYEES. Claiming a large number of aliens are on the payrolls of the United States Government, Congressman Daniel J. Griffith, of New York, announced today that he had written the heads of executive departments requesting a list of all the names of employees who are not American citizens.

This information, Mr. Griffith says, is desired in advance of his action seeking consideration of his bill providing "that all employees of the United States Government and the District of Columbia shall be citizens of the United States."

PERSHING SUCCEEDS FUNSTON. The War Department today issued the formal order which makes General Pershing commander of the Southern Department in charge of all border operations, succeeding the late General Funston.

U. S. CONSULS QUIT MUNICH. The Swiss legation today notified the State Department that twenty American consular officers and their families left Munich this morning for Switzerland.

2 TO 1 AGAINST U-BOATS. NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Bets of two to one have been made in Wall Street that neither the Orleans nor Rochester, American ships now in the submarine danger zone, will be sunk.